

(d) No, Sir.

(e) In view of (d) above, the question does not arise.

**Assistance from Health Minister's Discretionary Grants**

3068. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government provide financial assistance to the poor and indigent patients from the Health Minister's discretionary grant, to defray a part of the expenditure on hospitalization;

(b) if so, what are the details of financial assistance provided to individuals during the last three years, till date State-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether the upper ceiling of grant has also been raised; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, alongwith the date of enhancement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of financial assistance provided to individuals during the years 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-01 (upto 19th March, 01) are given in the Annexure. [See Appendix 192, Annexure No. 20]

(c) and (d) The upper ceiling of grant to be sanctioned in each case has been raised from Rs. 10,000/- to Rs. 20,000/- in May, 1993.

**Vacant post of Medical Superintendent and Adviser (Ayurveda)**

3069. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3649, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 22nd December, 2000 and state:

(a) the dates on which the posts of Medical Superintendent, Ayurveda Hospital, New Delhi and Adviser (Ayurveda) fell vacant;

(b) whether the process of filling up of these posts has been completed;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when, the process is likely to be completed?